

DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 11th FEBRUARY 2020 VENUE AND TIME OF THE MEETING: DOULTING VILLAGE HALL @ 7.30pm	
	<p><u>Public Meeting</u> This part of the meeting is intended to allow public participation on a number of matters prior to the commencement of the Parish Council meeting proper.</p>
	<p><u>Forum:</u> The Chairman will allow a maximum of 15 minutes for public participation. 11 members of the public were present.</p> <p>The compatibility of the proposed hearing loop with modern hearing aids was queried.</p> <p>A query was raised about the number of speed watches and the provision of information about the results. Cllr Crewe noted that the weather and the shortness of daylight had restricted the number of watches.</p>
	<p><u>Reports and Comments from County and District Councillors</u></p> <p>Cllr Hayden (in attendance) spoke about the NASS Festival consultation taking place at “The Crossways” in February and June. The location of this event was queried being a distance away from the actual venue. A further date to be sought from the organisers.</p> <p>He had contacted Highways who would be coming out to look at the safety issues on Doultling Hill.</p> <p>He noted the use of tape on waste bins to ask people not to put food waste in the bins but to use the appropriate brown bin for this purpose.</p> <p>He gave information about the budget which had now been set and noted the Mendip had become “commercial landlords” in order to increase revenue. A further £80m was to be borrowed to augment the property portfolio with some being spent on social housing. Cllr Shepherd was concerned about this strategy at a time when commercial property was becoming a risky investment. Cllr Hayden responded that the council was seeking suitable advice from consultants in order to invest in property to replace the near 40% of government funding which had been lost and to ensure the maintenance of local services.</p>
	<p><u>Police report</u> – a report for December – February had been received as below: 04/ 12 – Old Frome Road, minor RTC, vehicle in ditch Police in attendance near Wagon & Horses. 07/ 12 – Old Frome Road, Long Cross, Broken down vehicle. Police attended no trace of vehicle. 08/ 01 - Old Frome Road, vehicle collided with fallen tree, non injury, Police on scene & vehicle recovered. 07/02 Old Frome Road, theft from vehicle. N/S front window smashed, leather bag stolen. No CCTV or witnesses to progress.</p>

	<p><u>Planning Applications:</u> Public comments on the following planning applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Application 2020/0089/CLE – Application for a Certificate of Lawful Existing Development for Dwelling house at Farncombe Lodge, Prestleigh Lane, Prestleigh BA4 4NG. The applicants were at the meeting and gave information about the application; there were no public comments.
	<p>Closure of public participation and Commencement of the Parish Council Meeting. Members of the public may not speak during the meeting unless requested to do so by the Chairman.</p>
	<p><u>Present:</u> Cllrs Paula Fidge (Chair), Jan Crewe, John Shepherd and Ann Crowcombe; also in attendance Alan Butcher (Clerk)</p>
2002/1	<p><u>Apologies for absence.</u> Cllrs Wilkins and Goff.</p>
2002/2	<p><u>Declarations of Interest:</u> None.</p>
2002/3	<p><u>Confirmation of the Minutes of previous meetings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Meeting held on 14th January 2020 were agreed and signed as a true record.
2002/4	<p><u>Matters from the Minutes of previous meetings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Parish Council “Brown Bin” – to be organised at the start of the new financial year. ii) Hearing loop. The clerk had passed on details of other suppliers to Cllr Crowcombe. Cllr Fidge to speak to the school and village hall about the installation and equipment to be checked for compatibility before a final decision is made. Cllr Wilkins had been seeking funding for the equipment. iii) Emergency Planning. Cllr Crewe was seeking advice from Somerset CC about certain aspects of the plan; also confirmation was required for emergency accommodation at Prestleigh and Waterlip. iv) Fingerpost signs. Cllr Wilkins was seeking funding for these works; Cllr Crewe and the clerk to confirm which sign should be refurbished. v) Snow Warden training. It was agreed to seek this training in the autumn. vi) VE Day celebrations – 8th May 2019 – Cllr Crewe noted there was no event planned in Shepton Mallet but that there was to be a tea dance at the showground and events in Stoke St Michael and Chilcompton.
2002/5	<p><u>Parish Council Response to Planning Applications</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Application 2020/0089/CLE – Application for a Certificate of Lawful Existing Development for Dwelling house at Farncombe Lodge, Prestleigh Lane, Prestleigh BA4 4NG. Councillors agreed to support the application and to include comments to reinforce that support including the retention of a local business and family and a benefit to the local economy.

2002/6	<p><u>Parish Council Matters requiring a decision:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Safety Notice in Church Lane. The church were happy for the signs to be placed; Cllr Crewe and the clerk to agree wording. ii) Local Plan Part 2 consultation and Local Plan part 1 training. The modifications as a result of the Inspectors comments had meant that areas designated Local Green Spaces had been removed from the plan. There were no other implications for Doultling. iii) Somerset Climate Emergency survey and drop-in event 15th February 2020. This was noted; councillors to complete the online survey individually. iv) Response to Shepton Mallet United Charities request for information. Cllr Crewe to place an item in the Parish Newsletter.
2002/7	<p><u>Parish Councillors comments and updates relating to the following matters:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Highways and traffic – SCC Letter to Cllrs Ham and Hayden. This had been sent and Cllr Hayden had advised in his report about highways actions on the safety barrier. Low kerb on A361 – works still awaited. Damaged wall on A361 – works still awaited. Cutting back of hedges for highway safety; clerk to write to landowner. School Lane sign. This had been ordered. Cllr Shepherd was concerned by the standards of workmanship on the works undertaken on both Doultling and Prestleigh Hiils.. ii) Footpath matters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Parish Paths Liaison Officer – Cllr Crewe reported that a section of the East Mendip way was blocked by an electric fence. She would be receiving equipment to assist with her role shortly. Cllr Crewe and Fidge to meet to look at the Prestleigh footpath. iii) Speedwatch – Cllr Crewe noted that there had been two watches recently; there was a meeting of Speedwatch on 18th February. Police enforcement motorcycles had been on patrol in the Area. iv) SID’s – letter from SCC and response from SID’s volunteers. Somerset CC had collected the machines to extract the information.
2002/8	<p><u>Reports from Parish Council Representatives to Village Organisations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Village Hall and Social Group – Cllr Fidge reminded that there was an open meeting on 17th February; she had been involved with meetings with the school and governors. The social group were planning another film screening on 7th March and a jumble sale on 14th March. Other events including the OAP’s lunch were planned. ii) Beacon Hill Woods Society – various events had been cancelled due to the weather
2002/9	<p><u>Matters relating to The Glebeland</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Report on Glebeland matters. The working party planned for the 4th February was to be re-arranged due to poor weather. Cllr Crewe presented some information about tree guards. Mary Newman had advised details of works required to trees in the Glebeland some of which would require professional attention. The “Dogs on Leads” sign on the back gate to be checked.

2002/10	<p><u>Matters relating to Padfield Green.</u></p> <p>i) Replacement of Defective Equipment and safety surface. Cllr Wilkins was finalising funding and hoped to be able to present details shortly</p>
2002/11	<p><u>Matters relating to Prestleigh, Bath and West Showground and Waterlip.</u></p> <p>i) Waterlip matters – the grit bin requires filling.</p> <p>ii) Prestleigh matters – Cllr Fidge noted problems with ice on Prestleigh Hill which had affected HGV's. She noted an open meeting at the Mendip School to discuss the building of a swimming pool to which the Parish Council had not been invited.</p> <p>iii) Showground matters:</p> <p>a) NASS Consultation. The location of the proposed consultations had been queried earlier in the meeting.</p>
2002/12	<p><u>Financial:</u></p> <p>i) Clerks salary and expenses to include website costs. £483.96. This was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p>ii) Reimbursement for new padlock to skate park. £4.80. This was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p>iii) Review of insurance policy prior to renewal. The clerk advised that details of sums insured had been received from the insurers and that, after checking, no amendments other than an adjustment for inflation was required.</p>
2002/13	<p><u>Matters of Report:</u></p> <p>i) There was a discussion about setting up a Facebook page for the dissemination of information. A volunteer was required to set this up and administer it.</p> <p>ii) Cllr Crowcombe reported that Somerset Waste had advised that the area would be going over to the new three weekly waste collection and enhanced recycling collection on 28th June 2020.</p>
2002/14	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</u></p> <p>The next meeting will be on 10th March 2020, 7.30pm at Doultling Village Hall.</p>

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Alan Butcher,

Parish Clerk,

17th6 February 2020

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